

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 285

By Tate

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Patricia Pryor Degrafinreid for her meritorious service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of the General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Patricia Pryor Degrafinreid is one such estimable person who will be taking a much deserved retirement on May 24, 2013, after more than thirty years of distinguished service as a teacher with Memphis City Schools; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Degrafinreid was born in Drummonds, Tennessee, to Sampson and Josephine Pryor; she is one of twelve children; and

WHEREAS, she was the first female child in her family to attend college, graduating from Tennessee State University in August 1978; and

WHEREAS, upon her graduation from college, Patricia Degrafinreid was hired to teach math to at-risk students at Brighton Elementary School in Brighton, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, she moved to Memphis in 1981 and has taught at various schools throughout the City of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Degrafinreid earned her master's degree from Trevecca Nazarene College in Nashville in 1992; and

WHEREAS, Patricia Degrafinreid is an active and devout member of Rock of Ages C.M.E. Church in Memphis, which she serves faithfully as a Sunday School teacher and Usher Board President; and

WHEREAS, her numerous accomplishments aside, she is also deeply devoted to her family and she always endeavors to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Degrafinreid was joined in holy matrimony with Alfred Degrafinreid, Sr., with whom she enjoyed many years of marriage until his passing in 1998; and

WHEREAS, she is perhaps most grateful for the love and companionship she shares with her children, Patrick Wakefield, Althea Degrafinreid, and Alfred Degrafinreid II; and her grandchildren, David, Jon, and Jordan Wakefield; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Mrs. Degrafinreid has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of her colleagues and community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and commend Patricia Pryor Degrafinreid for her meritorious service to the good people of the State of Tennessee, and extend to her our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.